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In re LUCIW et al.  
Serial No. 08/089,407

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the envelope (env) domain of HIV and determining whether antibodies are bound to said antigen [the immunogenic polypeptide], the improvement comprising employing as [the immunogenic polypeptide] said antigen a synthetic HIV polypeptide.

61. (Amended) A method of detecting antibodies to a human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) in a human sample comprising:

- a) providing a solid support having bound thereto a synthetic HIV polypeptide comprising at least an [immunogenic] antigenic portion of the envelope (env) domain of HIV;
- b) contacting [the] said solid support with [the] said human sample to provide a sample-contacted support;
- c) washing [the] said sample-contacted support to provide a washed support; and
- d) determining whether human antibodies are bound to [the] said washed support.

62. (Amended) The method of claim 60 wherein [the] said human sample comprises serum.

63. (Amended) The method of claim 61 wherein [the] said human sample comprises serum.

64. (Amended) The method of claim 61 wherein step (d) comprises contacting [the] said washed support with labeled